

REMARKS/DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 1-5 and add new claims 6-13. Accordingly, claims 1-13 are pending in the application.

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority and receipt of certified copies of all the priority documents.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to state whether the drawings are acceptable.

Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the following Remarks.

35 U.S.C. §§ 101 & 112

Applicants respectfully submit that the present amendment to claim 5 overcomes the pending rejections of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 101 & 112. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 101 & 112 be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §§ 102 & 103

The Office Action rejects claims 1-2 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over Silit-Werke GmbH & Co. DE 299 23 595 ("DE 595"); claims 1-3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over Kaimeidou et al. JP 05-116989 ("JP 989"); claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over Jonschker et al. WO 99/50477 ("Jonschker"); and claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over DE 595.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-5 are all patentable over the cited art for at least the following reasons.

The Office Action does not cite anything in DE 595, JP 989, or Jonschker that discloses that the bonded fluorine is non-hydrolyzable.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-5 are all patentable over the cited prior art.

NEW CLAIMS 6-13

New claims 6-13 depend variously from claims 1 and 5 and are deemed patentable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claims 1 and 5, and for the following additional reasons.

In the methods of claim 6-7 and the utensils of claims 11-12, the fluorinated organosilane compound comprises tridecafluoro, 1,1,2,2,tetrahydrooctyltriethoxysilane. Applicants respectfully submit that none of the cited references discloses such a feature.

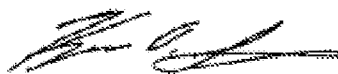
Accordingly, for at least these additional reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 6-7 and 11-12 are patentable over the cited art.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing explanations, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and reexamine the present application, allow claims 1-13 and pass the application to issue. In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Kenneth D. Springer (Reg. No. 39,843) at (571) 283.0720 to discuss these matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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